Revamping of foodgrain storage facility

1967. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) propose to spend about Rs.400 crore over the next four-five years to revamp its foodgrain handling and storage facility; and

(b) if so, the details of proposed investment, State wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

De-control scheme for sugar mills

†1968. SHRI D.R YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the de-controlling scheme formulated for the sugar mills and the impediments in its simplifications; and

(b) the reasons for not implementing the scheme by making it liberal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The decontrol of sugar involves, *inter alia,* the levy obligation on sugar factories and the "regulated release" mechanism under which the releases of free-sale sugar are controlled. As a first step, the levy obligation on sugar factories has progressively been reduced to 10% as indicated below:

40% to 30% with effect from 1st January, 2000 30% to 15% with effect from 1st February, 2001 15% to 10% with effect from 1st March, 2002

2. The "regulated release" mechanism is contemplated to continue for some time keeping in view the carry over stocks with the sugar factories.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.